

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 00555 142329Z

47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

IO-10 NIC-01 /073 W

----- 043845

R 142300Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5667

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMONSUL HONG KONG 175

USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, CH, CA

SUBJECT: CANADIAN AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS IN HANOI

1. CANADIAN PRESS HAS GIVEN MODERATE COVERAGE TO NEWS ITEM REPORTING THAT CANADIAN AMBASSADOR TO CHINA JOHN SMALL RECENTLY PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS IN HANOI TO VICE PRESIDENT NGUYEN LUONG BANG. ACCORDING TO PRESS, HE ALSO HAD AN HOUR-LONG TALK WITH GOVERNMENT PREMIER PHAM VAN DONG, AND MET WITH A RANGE OF GOVERNMENT AND OTHER PARTY LEADERS BEFORE TRAVELING TO HAIPHONG AND THE RESORT TOWN OF HALONG.

2. COMMENT: APPARENTLY INVITATION TO PRESENT CREDENTIALS CAME ON A VERY SHORT NOTICE AND WITH "NO STRINGS ATTACHED." HANOI REP IN PEKING DID ALLEGEDLY SAY THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HOPED THAT AS A RESULT OF THIS ACTION CANADA WOULD "COOPERATE" IN EFFORTS TO SEAT VIET CONG AT RED CROSS CONFERENCE ON HUMANITARIAN LAW IN GENEVA OR AT LEAST ABSTAIN ON ISSUE. AMBASSADOR SMALL REFERRED QUESTION TO OTTAWA

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BUT BEFORE NEGATIVE REPLY COULD BE GIVEN TO SMALL

(COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN SMALL AND OTTAWA HAMPERED
BY CANADIAN GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATORS' STRIKE), HE
WAS INVITED TO COME TO HANOI TO PRESENT HIS
CREDENTIALS.

3. EXTAFF OFFICIAL SAID CANADA HAD NO INTENTION
OF ESTABLISHING A PERMANENT MISSION IN HANOI AND DID
NOT THINK THAT HANOI WOULD ESTABLISH ONE IN OTTAWA.
HOWEVER, SMALL WAS TOLD THAT QUESTION IS UNDER
CONSIDERATION AND THAT, IN MEANTIME, HANOI AMBASSADOR
IN PARIS WOULD BE ACCREDITED TO CANADA.
PORTER

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